



14/07/2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the end of a very strange Summer term, I wanted to write to you to confirm the details for school reopening to all children from September. This is a long and detailed letter but I hope that will answer any questions you may have. The school will close on Friday 17th July and will reopen to children on Tuesday 8th September. **The school will not be open at all over the summer break.** We will upload the final work plan on Monday 13th July; there will be no work uploaded over the summer holidays, however you will still be able to access all of the educational websites signposted on the website under COVID.

We recommend that children continue to read as much as possible during the holidays and practise their mental maths using TT rockstars, NumBots and Number Gym, as they have been doing throughout the closure.

We have already written a very comprehensive reconnection curriculum for the core subjects which teachers will deliver from September, to enable any children with gaps to catch up.

The government has sent out very detailed guidance about how schools can reopen safely to all children in the Autumn term. We are in the process of completing a full risk assessment and your child's wellbeing and safety are of the utmost importance to us.

In June, we reopened to approximately 40% of our children from Rec-Year 6. This has stood us in good stead to be able to open fully from September; many of the safety precautions we put in place to reduce virus transmission will still be appropriate in September.

Here are some answers to questions many of you will have:



**Who will be allowed to attend once school reopens?**

The DfE are clear that the attendance of ALL children in September is mandatory. They are reintroducing penalty notices / fines for non-attendance. We will continue our attendance procedures as before.

**When will school be open?**

From September 8th, school will be open five full days per week as it was before closure in March. However, the DfE have requested that schools introduce staggered start and end times to the school day in order to minimise the number of people on the site at one time. We are mindful that we want to remain safe whilst also minimising the disruption for parents, many of whom are returning to work. We will therefore trial reopening with 5 minute gaps between each bubble for the start/ end times of the day. To support families with siblings, children MUST be dropped with the sibling which starts school first and picked up at the latest child's pick up time. For example if you have a child in reception and Year 5 you will bring both children to school dropping your reception child at Team Nidd at 8:45 and then walk around school and drop your older child at Team Humber early. If you arrive later than your child's drop off time they will need to be left with Mrs Jackson in the office as classroom doors will need to be locked for safeguarding reasons. Children will not be able to be picked up earlier than their collection time.

Nursery 9:00-3:30 (children starting and finishing at different times can be collected/dropped off at the office)

Reception 8:45 - 3:00

Derwent 8:50 - 3:05

Foss 8:55-3:10

Humber 9:00-3:15

If we find that too many people are gathering on site and risking virus transmission, we may have to introduce wider start and end times; we will monitor the situation and alter if required as part of a dynamic risk assessment. Please see the separate letter which outlines arrangements for the new children starting school in our early Years class in September which has already been sent out

**How will classes be organised?**

Next year, the children will start in their new teams. Children will work in their team classroom throughout the day. In order to minimise virus transmission, children will be in class bubbles. They will be taught by their class teacher with the support of an Assistant teacher. Mr Jeff/Mrs Ruddle/Mrs Beaumont will continue to deliver the PE/French and music curriculum across the classes in KS1 and KS2. Like these members of staff, some ATs will work between class bubbles; this is allowable within the DfE guidelines so that the curriculum can be fully delivered and supported. Staff who work with more than one class/bubble will maintain social distancing where possible and ensure they adhere to guidelines regarding hand and respiratory hygiene.

**What will my child's school day look like?**

From September, children will be taught lessons from all of the curriculum areas for their year group to ensure delivery of a broad, balanced curriculum. Early on in the term, children will be assessed to determine where, if any, the gaps in learning are. We have written a reconnection curriculum for our school in maths, reading, writing and wellbeing. We will focus on key skills in the core subjects; in particular phonics, reading and spelling in literacy and number place value and the four operations in maths for the Autumn term.

From September, children will once again be able to bring school reading books between school and home; there will be more stringent rules about when and how books are changed however, as we have to 'quarantine' reading books for 48 hours before they can be re-loaned. For the first week

of term, we will be quarantining books that have been returned to school, having been loaned out before closure. Currently, the vast majority of our school reading books are at home with children so please bear with us for the first week of term in September, whilst we gather together enough books to safely re-loan.

Regular hand washing will continue to feature in the timetable. Children will be supervised washing hands on entry into school, before and after lunch and breaks, after using the toilet as well as at other regular times. Hand sanitizer will only be used on occasions when children do not have access to a sink; this will be supervised to prevent any injury e.g. sanitizer in eyes. **CHILDREN MUST NOT BRING THEIR OWN SANITIZER TO SCHOOL.**

Children will still get time to play outside; break and lunch times will be staggered so that classes go out at different times and stay in zones. Different classes will not mix but children within a class will now be allowed to play together; there is no expectation that children within the same class will socially distance from one another.

#### Key Stage two (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)

For lunch children will need to bring a packed lunch. If your child is entitled FSM they will be provided with a packed lunch which will be delivered to their classroom, where they will eat, to reduce the risk of transmission with lots of children using one space (the hall).

#### Reception and KS1 (Reception, Y1, Y2)

For lunch children will **ALL** be provided with a hot dinner in the hall as part of the Government's Universal Free School Meals. They will take their own water bottle with them to minimise risk of transmission. Children will not need a packed lunch.

#### What should my child bring to school and wear?

Although children will be allowed to bring some limited items to school, we are still keen to reduce the amount of things transferred from home to school. Classes will need to keep cloakrooms free of clutter and so children may need to keep their belongings with them. Please help us by minimising the things your child brings to school.

Children can bring:

- One drinks bottle containing water not juice
- A packed lunch box for Nursery/KS2 children
- A coat for the cold / wet weather OR sunhat for sunny weather
- Their book bag containing only their reading book and planner

Children **MUST NOT** bring:

- Any bags i.e. rucksack, backpack.
- Toys
- Any playtime equipment e.g. balls or skipping ropes
- Hand sanitizer or soaps; school will provide both of these items which have been approved by H&S for school use and COSHH tested
- Sun cream; parents must apply this before school please
- PE kit

This term, we were more flexible with uniform and footwear, mindful of the fact that some children had outgrown things! However, from September, we expect all children to wear full school uniform; this includes footwear which should be plain black / dark shoes with NO logos/ colours. The DfE guidance states that uniform does not need to be cleaned any more than usual, nor does it need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

Children SHOULD NOT wear face masks/ coverings; in younger children this is more likely to contribute to spreading any virus rather than preventing it as they do not use them correctly. Staff will not be wearing face coverings unless needing to administer first aid or personal care.

#### **When will my child do PE? (Year 1-6)**

To minimise the transmission of the virus all children from Year One up Year Six will be asked to come into school on Monday wearing their PE kit. Children will receive two sessions of PE on this day. We will do as much outdoor PE as possible (even if it is cold but dry) so please wear appropriate kit which will keep your child warm. Outdoor trainers are essential. Children in Early Years will do PE in their uniform and bare feet initially in the hall as we are unable to get too close to them to help them get changed!

In the interest of safety, hygiene and team spirit, we ask for your cooperation in sending your child in the following appropriate clothes every Monday:

- Plain Black/Navy shorts
- Plain white t-shirt
- Outdoor Trainers
- White socks
- Black/Navy Tracksuit for colder weather ( with minimal logo)

#### **What if my child develops COVID symptoms while at school?**

If your child develops COVID symptoms they will have their temperature checked and you will be contacted immediately if we have a concern. It is vital we have updated emergency contact information.

#### **What is school doing to make sure my child is as safe as possible?**

We have undertaken a very detailed Risk Assessment to ensure that school is as safe as it can be for children to return to school. Measures in place include:

##### **Hand hygiene**

We will continue to timetable hand washing REGULARLY in classrooms. Children will be taught / reminded about how to wash their hands effectively using soap.

##### **Respiratory hygiene**

As per DfE guidance, we will adopt the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach in school. Each class has been provided with a separate bin (with lid) for the disposal of tissues. The bins are lined with double bags and are disposed of as per government guidelines after a period of quarantine. Additionally, we will ensure that classes are well ventilated by keeping windows open; please make sure your child wears a school jumper or cardigan!

##### **Cleaning**

Members of staff will clean regularly touched surfaces such as desks throughout the day, using disinfectant. The toilets will be cleaned twice each day.

##### **Use of PPE**

This will only be worn by staff who have to have close contact with a child displaying Covid symptoms (gloves, apron, and mask) or needing intimate care.

##### **Social Distancing**

The DfE guidance states: "Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces transmission of coronavirus. Schools must do everything possible to minimise contact and mixing whilst delivering a broad and balanced curriculum." The guidance goes on to state that for younger children (primary schools) the emphasis will be on separating group / class bubbles rather than on distancing. The guidance also makes clear that members of staff can move between bubbles. So at our school we will implement the following:

### **Children interacting with other children**

- Children will not be expected to socially distance from other children who are in the same class; however we will try and support them in keeping their distance from others whenever they can and not touch one another unnecessarily. However, with upto 30 children back in relatively small classrooms, children will be in fairly close proximity to one another.
- Children will remain in their class bubble and we will minimise mixing with children from other classes, with us continuing to run wrap around care and the shuttle bus there may be times when this is not possible.
- There will be significantly reduced movement of children around school which will reduce their contact with children from other classes.

### **Staff interacting with children**

- Staff will try as much as possible to distance themselves from children - PHE understands that in primary schools, particularly with younger children, this may not be possible. However, wherever possible, staff will aim to keep 2m away from children when they can but approach from behind if they need to be in closer proximity (eg opening pack up items / helping with work).
- Children will sit at forward facing desks next to one another (2 children at each desk)- think Victorian school rows! In EYFS and KS1, children will spend some time sitting in forward facing rows on the carpet. This means that they will be in close proximity to at least one other child.

### **Interaction with other adults**

- Parents are not to enter school / come to school office- please email or phone the office with any queries (admin.cam@ebor.academy / 01757 616374)
- We will be minimising volunteers in school for the first half term
- A member of staff will be on the door each morning to speak to any parents as children are dropped off but conversations must be socially distanced. I will also be on duty at the start/end of the school day, as usual.

### **Use of Equipment**

- Children will sit at the same desk every day.
- Each child will be given their own pack of stationery and will not share this equipment.
- For other classroom based resources essential for learning- eg books / games- these will be used and shared WITHIN A CLASS but will be cleaned regularly. This is the same for playtime equipment.
- For resources that need to be shared between a number of classes eg science equipment, some maths equipment, art /PE/DT equipment- these will be cleaned between use by different classes OR left unused for 48 hours (or 72 hours for plastics) before used by another class.

### **DROP OFF / COLLECTION PROTOCOLS**

- At drop off / pick up times, please keep the number of people on the site to a minimum
- Parents must NOT gather at gates or on school grounds; as soon as your child has entered school, please leave the premises.
  - Once you have entered the site through the main gate please proceed around the building in an anticlockwise direction and drop your children off in order of their teams. Please maintain distance if other families are in front of you.
  - Do not arrive too early; you should only be on site a couple of minutes before the entry time for your earliest child's group. It is imperative that we avoid overcrowding on the school site.
    - Once you have dropped off your child, please leave the school site following our 1 way system.
  - Do not allow your child to play on school grounds before or after school; it is important to minimise the mixing of children from different bubbles.
  - Parents must NOT enter the school building with their child.
- In the event that your child becomes upset, staff will be unable to help parents get children into school as we would usually do without breaking social distancing guidance. Parents will be responsible for encouraging children into school without entering the building themselves.



### **How is wrap around care changing?**

- The guidance states that before / after clubs can run to support parents with childcare - for clubs it is permitted for children to mix in wider groups (i.e. with children not in their own class) as long as the new club group is relatively small and that consistent children attend it.
- Wrap Around Care will start from Wednesday 9th September and breakfast and afterschool club **MUST** be booked in advance.
- Children in different bubbles will be asked to stay in different zones in the hall even if they are siblings. This is to reduce the risk of transmission.
- Breakfast club will now run from 7:45am until the start of your child's bubble at the cost of £3.50 and include breakfast. Children must be dropped off at the hall doors rather than the front entrance, with parents following the anticlockwise one way system. Parents are not permitted to enter the building.
- After school provision will run from when your child's bubble finishes until 5:30pm. This is to allow additional cleaning of the hall and resources after each session. Children must be collected from the school office. Please use the intercom doorbell to inform staff of your child's name/s. Parents are not permitted to enter the main building. This will be at the cost of £6.50.
- We understand that parents' working hours may have changed and we will continually address the viability of the Wrap Around Care we offer in the first half term. We have worked hard to be one of the few schools able to offer this service to our families from the start of term.
- If your child is in receipt of pupil premium funding and would like to access breakfast club please contact Mrs Jackson and will look at putting additional provision in place.

### **Other Practical Things Parents Need to Know**

- Parents should not enter school or come into the school office; please email or phone school with any queries or concerns.
- Any WAC must be booked and paid for via ParentPay in advance so we know how many children will be attending; we will not be able to take any children who have not pre booked.

For children who use an inhaler or need to take prescription medication during school time, please ensure that their spare inhaler/medication is returned to the office on their first day back.

I hope that this letter answers any questions you may have about returning to school in September. Please contact the school office by phone or email if you have any further questions or concerns. If there are any changes to these plans during the summer holidays, I will write to you. You will also receive a return to school pack from Ebor Academy Trust later in the week giving more key details.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. It is very much appreciated in these difficult and unprecedented times.

With very best wishes,

Dave Card  
Head of School